

April 9, 2009

Obey IN AMERY FOR UPDATE ON AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS

AMERY, WI - Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) was at Amery Municipal Airport today for an update on how they are using the \$950,000 in federal funds that he secured in the omnibus appropriations bill that was recently signed into law to help the airport make necessary improvements to meet local business needs.

"There is a growing demand for business aviation in north central Wisconsin and our airports need to improve their facilities and service to keep up with that demand," said Obey. "Better transportation links means more job opportunities, so I'm happy we were able to secure these funds to help improve Amery Airport and hopefully promote economic growth in our community, and I'm glad to be here today to see firsthand how they're planning to use that money."

The Amery Municipal Airport is a general utility airport with 23 planes permanently based there and an average of 14,000 operations a year. Amery's two largest employers, Cardinal Glass and Scientific Molding Corporation, use the airport regularly to bring in customers, vendors, and employees.

The federal funds that Obey secured are intended to help replace the pavement on the airport's parallel taxiway. The current taxiway was built in 1972 and is in very poor condition, posing a serious hazard to air traveler safety.

Recognizing the importance of regional airports, Obey also secured \$950,000 in the omnibus to help L.O. Simenstad Municipal Airport in Osceola expand to meet growing business demands.

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